

REMARKS

Favorable consideration of this application, as presently amended, is respectfully requested.

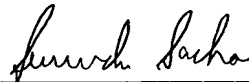
By the present preliminary amendment the specification is amended to refer to related applications. Further, a new Abstract believed to be in more proper format under U.S. practice is submitted.

Further, claims 1-24 are canceled without prejudice and new claims 25-48 are presented for examination. New claims 25-48 are deemed to be self-evident from the original disclosure, including the original claims, and thus are not deemed to raise any issues of new matter. Further, new claims 25-48 are not believed to be more narrow in scope in any aspect in comparison with canceled claims 1-24.

The present application is believed to be in condition for a full and thorough examination on the merits. An early and favorable consideration of the present application is hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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